

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 27-28, 31 and 35-50 are amended. Claims 29-30 and 32-34 remain in the application. Thus, claims 27-50 are active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In item 6 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 35, 38, 43, 46 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. In particular, the Examiner asserted that the terms “from among” in claims 35, 38, 43, 46 and 48 do not clearly convey whether a command is selected, accepted or determined from a set consisting of, comprising or including at least one of a “lock operation,” an “unlock operation” or a “set password” command.

In view of the rejection of claims 35- 38, 43, 46 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, claims 35- 38, 43, 46 and 48 have each been amended to recite that a command “among” a “lock operation,” an “unlock operation” or a “set password” is selected, accepted or determined so as to clearly convey that one of the commands is selected, accepted, or determined at any given time from the set of a “lock operation,” an “unlock operation” or a “set password.” Accordingly, in view of the aforementioned amendments to claims 35- 38, 43, 46 and 48, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 35- 38, 43, 46 and 48 are each definite and particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claims 35- 38, 43, 46 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

In item 8 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 27-29, 32, 36, 39-40, 44 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Xydis (U.S. 6,307,471). Without intending to acquiesce to the rejection of the claims, independent claims 27, 36, 39 and 44 have each been amended in order to more clearly illustrate the marked differences between the present invention and the applied references.

An object of present invention is to provide an information processing system, an information processing apparatus and a control method for controlling the information processing system and apparatus to be capable of preventing the surreptitious reading, falsifying and/or erasing of data stored in the information processing apparatus or an

information terminal which the information processing apparatus is operable to communicate with.

The present invention achieves this object by providing an information processing system which includes an information processing apparatus and an information terminal. As described, for example, beginning at line 7 on page 5 of the substitute specification, the information processing system includes an information processing apparatus 110 and an information terminal 120. The information processing apparatus 110, which operates as a main controller, generates an image signal by specified signal processing, and transmits the generated image signal to the information terminal 120, which operates as a display apparatus, by using a radio wave that is outputted from a first transmitting and receiving unit 113. The information terminal 120 receives the outputted radio wave in a second transmitting and receiving unit 121, decodes the radio wave into an image signal, and displays the decoded image signal as an image in a second display unit 122. The displayed image is transmitted from the information processing apparatus 110 into the information terminal 120 of the information processing system of the present invention without being changed or modified therebetween.

As described beginning at line 19 on page 5 of the substitute specification, the information processing apparatus 110 comprises a first input unit 112 which is a manual input device that includes a keyboard and a mouse which are manipulated by a user for input operations. The information terminal 120 includes a second input unit 123 which is similarly able to be manipulated by manual entries of a user for input operations. By manipulating the second input unit 123 of the information terminal 120, the user generates an operation signal that is transmitted from a second transmitting and receiving unit 121 of the information terminal 120 to the first transmitting and receiving unit 113 of the information processing apparatus 110.

Accordingly, the present invention provides that the information processing apparatus and the information terminal of the information processing system each have an input unit that is operable to be manipulated by a user for input operations.

The present invention, as recited in claim 27, achieves the stated object by providing an information terminal for performing radio communication with an information processing apparatus. Further, the present invention, as recited in claim 36,

also achieves the stated object by providing an information processing system including an information terminal and an information processing apparatus which are operable to perform radio communication with each other. The information terminals of claims 27 and 36 each comprise a first input unit operable to accept a manual entry and to output a signal responsive to the manual entry, and a processing unit operable to process the signal outputted from the first input unit and to generate an output signal. The information terminals of claims 27 and 36 also each comprise a communication unit operable to convert the output signal and to transmit the converted signal to the information processing apparatus. The information terminal of claim 27 is operable to disable one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the manual entry.

The information processing apparatus of the information processing system of claim 36 comprises a transmitting and receiving unit operable to perform radio communication with the information terminal, a locking unit operable to disable one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus, and one of a field strength detector operable to measure a field strength of a received signal transmitted from the information terminal or a location detector operable to detect a location of the information processing apparatus. The information processing apparatus of claim 36 also comprises an out-of-range determining and informing unit operable to judge one of the field strength of the received signal or the detected location of the information processing apparatus, and to output a notice signal to the locking unit when one of the measured field strength of the received signal or the detected location of the information processing apparatus is out of a predetermined range. Further, as recited in claim 36, the locking unit of the information processing apparatus is operable to be activated by one of the manual entry accepted by the first input unit or the notice signal outputted from the out-of-range determining and informing unit of the information processing apparatus.

The present invention, as recited in claim 39, also achieves the stated object by providing a control method for an information terminal for performing radio communication with an information processing apparatus. In the information terminal, the control method of claim 39 comprises accepting a manual entry and outputting a signal responsive to the manual entry, and processing the signal outputted in the

outputting of the signal and generating an output signal. The control method of claim 39 also comprises converting the output signal and transmitting the converted signal to the information processing apparatus, and disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the manual entry.

The present invention, as recited in claim 44, also achieves the stated object by providing a control method for an information processing system for controlling an information terminal and an information processing apparatus to mutually perform radio communication with each other. In the information terminal, the control method of claim 44 comprises accepting a manual entry inputted to the information terminal and outputting a signal responsive to the manual entry inputted to the information terminal, and processing the signal outputted in the outputting of the signal responsive to the manual entry inputted to the information terminal and generating an output signal. In the information terminal, the control method of claim 44 also comprises converting the output signal and transmitting the converted signal to the information processing apparatus, and disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the manual entry inputted to the information terminal.

Xydis discloses a method for transmitting a signal 10 such as radio waves between a token 12, e.g., a badge or a pager, that a user 16 wears and an electronic device 14, e.g., a personal computer. Xydis discloses that the signal 10 is capable of being mutually transmitted between the token 12 and the electronic device 14 to authorize the user to access the electronic device 14.

Xydis discloses that the token 12 transmits the signal 10 to antennas 18 of the electronic device 14, and the strength of the signal 10 is then measured at each of the antennas 18. If the maximum signal strength of the signal 10 that is detected at the antennas 18 does not exceed a predetermined operational threshold, the user is prohibited from accessing the electronic device 14 (see Column 3, lines 22-25 and Column 4, lines 5-9). However, if the maximum signal strength of the signal 10 that is detected at the antennas 18 exceeds a predetermined operational threshold, the data of the signal 10 is then compared to a user code database. If the data of the signal 10 that exceeds the predetermined operational threshold matches a user code in the user code database of the electronic device 14, the electronic device 14 is enabled and the user is granted access to

the electronic device 14 (see Column 3, line 66 to Column 4, line 5). However, Xydis also discloses that if the data of the signal 10 that exceeds the predetermined threshold does not match a user code in the user code database of the electronic device 14, the user is prohibited from accessing the electronic device 14 (see Column 4, lines 2-5). The signal strength of the signal 10 is measured by the degree of proximity the user is to the electronic device 14.

Xydis also discloses that if more than one user is authorized to operate the electronic device 14, the electronic device 14 can only be operated by the first user who logged into the electronic device 14 (computer) by entering a password or another method of authorizing a user's identity after the user was granted access when the user's token 12 was in close enough proximity to the electronic device 14 so as to grant the user access to the electronic device (see Column 4, lines 22-27).

The Examiner contends that the plurality of antennas 18, 18' provided with the user-worn token 12 correspond to an input unit which is operable to accept an input operation and to output a signal responsive to the input operation. Xydis discloses a plurality of antennas 18, 18' are disposed perpendicularly to each other so as to receive the polarized electromagnetic waves (signal) 10 which are generated and transmitted from the electronic device 14 (see Column 2, lines 51-57 and Figures 2 and 3).

Notwithstanding the fact that Xydis discloses a plurality of antennas ("input units") whereas the present invention, as recited in claims 27 and 36, provides only a single first input unit, the antennas 18, 18' of Xydis are not disclosed or suggested as being operable to accept a manual entry. That is, the antennas 18, 18' of Xydis cannot be manipulated by a user to accept a manual entry since the antennas 18, 18' merely receive the signal 10 that is transmitted from the electronic device 14. Xydis specifically discloses that the token 12 transmits only programmed data to the electronic device (see Column 2, lines 37-38). Therefore, non-programmed data, such as a user-entered data, cannot be transmitted from the antennas 18' of the token 12 to the electronic device 14.

Accordingly, Xydis clearly does not disclose or suggest an information terminal comprising a first input unit operable to accept a manual entry and to output a signal responsive to the manual entry, where the information terminal is operable to disable one of a start or a function of an information processing apparatus responsive to the manual

entry, as recited in claim 27. Similarly, Xydis also clearly does not disclose or suggest an information terminal comprising a first input unit operable to accept a manual entry and to output a signal responsive to the manual entry, and an information processing apparatus comprising a locking unit operable to be activated by one of the manual entry accepted by the first input unit or the notice signal outputted from the out-of-range determining and informing unit of the information processing apparatus, as recited in claim 36.

Moreover, Xydis clearly does not disclose or suggest a control method for an information terminal for performing radio communication with an information processing apparatus in which the method comprises accepting a manual entry and outputting a signal responsive to the manual entry, as recited in claim 39. Similarly, Xydis clearly does not disclose or suggest a control method for an information processing system for controlling an information terminal and an information processing apparatus to mutually perform radio communication with each other, wherein in the information terminal, the method comprises accepting a manual entry inputted to the information terminal and outputting a signal responsive to the manual entry inputted to the information terminal, as recited in claim 44.

Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 27, 36, 39 and 44 are clearly not anticipated by Xydis since Xydis fails to disclose each and every limitation of claims 27, 36, 39 and 44.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 27, 36, 39 and 44 are clearly allowable over Xydis.

In item 17 on page 9 of the Office Action, claims 30-34, 37, 41-42, 45 and 49-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Xydis in view of O'Mahony (U.S. 6,457,129). Further, in item 19 on page 10 of the Office Action, claims 35, 38, 43, 46 and 48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Xydis in view of Doub et al. (U.S. 6,594,762). For the following reasons, the Applicants respectfully submit that neither O'Mahony nor Doub et al., either individually or in combination, cure the deficiencies of Xydis for failing to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claims 27, 36, 39 and 44.

O'Mahony discloses a method and apparatus for securely protecting a computer by monitoring the location of the computer to determine if the computer is in an authorized location according to authorized locations that are stored in a database of the computer. The security system of O'Mahony is self-contained in the computer itself (see Column 3, lines 55-65), and therefore, the security system does not interact with another electronic device to disable the computer. O'Mahony discloses that the security system is able to track the location of the computer by using a global positioning system (GPS) (see Column 3, lines 15-17). When the self-contained security system of the computer detects that the present location of the computer is not in an authorized location, the computer disables users from accessing the computer.

Doub et al. discloses a method and device in which an electronic device 100 and a remote device 110 cooperate with each other so as to enable a display of the electronic device 100 when a distance between the electronic device 100 and the remote device 110 is less than a transmit range and to disable the display when the distance therebetween is greater than the transmit range. In particular, Doub et al. discloses that when an authorized user carries the remote device 110, transmission and reply signals, which contain authentication codes, are transmitted between the electronic and remote devices to enable the display of the electronic device. However, when the transmit range between the remote device 110 and the electronic device 100 exceeds a predetermined range, the display of the electronic device 100 is prohibited (see Column 3, lines 19-43, Column 4, lines 17-36 and Figures 1 and 2).

O'Mahony and Doub et al., however, clearly do not disclose or suggest an information terminal comprising a first input unit operable to accept a manual entry and to output a signal responsive to the manual entry, where the information terminal is operable to disable one of a start or a function of an information processing apparatus responsive to the manual entry, as recited in claim 27. Similarly, O'Mahony and Doub et al also clearly do not disclose or suggest an information terminal comprising a first input unit operable to accept a manual entry and to output a signal responsive to the manual entry, and an information processing apparatus comprising a locking unit operable to be activated by one of the manual entry accepted by the first input unit or the notice signal

outputted from the out-of-range determining and informing unit of the information processing apparatus, as recited in claim 36.

Moreover, O'Mahony and Doub et al. clearly do not disclose or suggest a control method for an information terminal for performing radio communication with an information processing apparatus in which the method comprises accepting a manual entry and outputting a signal responsive to the manual entry, as recited in claim 39. Similarly, O'Mahony and Doub et al. clearly do not disclose or suggest a control method for an information processing system for controlling an information terminal and an information processing apparatus to mutually perform radio communication with each other, wherein in the information terminal, the method comprises accepting a manual entry inputted to the information terminal and outputting a signal responsive to the manual entry inputted to the information terminal, as recited in claim 44.

Therefore, O'Mahony and Doub et al., either individually or in combination, clearly do not cure the deficiencies of Xydis for failing to disclose or suggest each and every combination of claims 27, 36, 39 and 44.

Accordingly, no obvious combination of Xydis, O'Mahony and Doub et al. would result in the inventions of claims 27, 36, 39 and 44 since Xydis, O'Mahony and Doub et al. each fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claims 27, 36, 39 and 44. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 27, 36, 39 and 44 are clearly patentable over Xydis, O'Mahony and Doub et al.

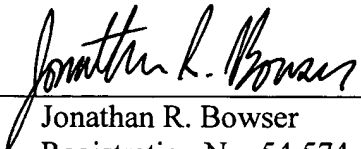
Furthermore, the Applicants respectfully submit that the clear distinctions discussed above are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to modify Xydis, O'Mahony and Doub et al. in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claims 27, 36, 39 and 44. Therefore, it is submitted that the claims 27, 36, 39 and 44, as well as claims 28-35, 37-38, 40-43 and 45-50 which depend therefrom, are clearly allowable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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